

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



April 14, 1994

ALL-COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. I-11-94

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: FOSTER PARENT TRAINING PROGRAM

REFERENCE: ACL 94-13

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

- ☐ State Law Change
- ☐ Federal Law or Regulation Change
- ☐ Court Order or Settlement Agreement
- ☐ Clarification Requested by One or More Counties
- ☒ Initiated by CDSS

As discussed in ACL 94-13, the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) has purchased "Foster Pride/Adopt Pride", a comprehensive, competency-based, pre-service and in-service foster parent training program recently developed by the Child Welfare League of America (CWLA). The CDSS has made a commitment to provide a copy of the complete training program to each county at no cost to the county. There is no intent by CDSS to require counties to implement this program. However, for counties wishing to implement the training program, CDSS has contracted with CWLA to provide a four-day Training for Trainer's session in each of the five County Welfare Director's Association (CWDA) regions. The Training for Trainer's sessions have been planned for August and September 1994. The CDSS has also contracted with CWLA to make presentations on the training program. A CWLA staff person will make a presentation at each of the five regional CWDA Children's Committee meetings in April 1994. This presentation will provide the committee with an overview of the training program including the background and philosophy of the program; the competencies on which the program is based; a description of the components; and implementation and training issues.

Following is a brief description of the components that comprise the pre-service and in-service training program. A separate letter was recently mailed to the Staff Development Officer in your county transmitting the pre-service components completed to date: the Trainer's Guide and the Pridebook. The videos, "Making a Difference" and "Developing Family Resources", are currently being reproduced and will be forwarded to Staff Development Officers in the next few weeks. The remaining in-service training components, the Trainer's Guide, the Pridebook, the Evaluation Tools, the Training for Trainer's Guide, and the Family Development Specialist's Handbook have a projected completion date of August 1994 and will be forwarded to Staff Development Officers when they are completed.

FOSTER PRIDE/ADOPT PRIDE TRAINING PROGRAM COMPONENTS

1) PRE-SERVICE

Trainer's Guide--provides content and directions for conducting ten, three-hour training sessions.

Pridebook--includes participant resource materials for use during the pre-service training sessions.

"Making a Difference" Video--a 35-minute video demonstrating competencies essential for fostering and adopting.

"Developing Family Resources" Video--a 35-minute video teaching family assessment strategies and how to incorporate family assessment and pre-service training.

Family Development Specialist's Handbook--includes 14 chapters addressing: cultural competence; conducting at-home family consultations; using ecomaps and genograms; using a family assessment plan to identify and address "red flags"; selecting out strategies using a teamwork approach; and counseling out strategies.

2) IN-SERVICE

Trainer's Guide--provides content and directions for conducting nine training modules totaling 66 hours.

Pridebook--includes participant resource materials for use during the in-service sessions.

3) TRAINING FOR TRAINER'S

Training for Trainer's Guide--provides instruction on implementing the training program and on preparing trainers to use the pre-service and in-service training components.

4) PROGRAM EVALUATION

Evaluation Tools--provides a method to evaluate the effectiveness of the training program.

Should you have any questions, please contact Ms. Deborah Nguyen, Foster Care Policy Bureau, at (916) 327-6926.

Sincerely,



MARJORIE KELLY
Deputy Director
Children and Family Services Division